

A REVIEW OF THE OLD WORLD RALLINÆ.

BY WITMER STONE.

While engaged in identifying the Rallidæ in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, I was impressed with the confusion which exists in regard to the synonymy of the Old World members of the family, more especially with reference to the generic position of many of the species and the limitation of the several genera.

G. R. Gray, in his Hand List, has increased the confusion to an extraordinary degree, and it is difficult to imagine how he conceived such an arrangement as is there proposed.

Having had occasion to make a thorough investigation of the literature bearing upon the Old World Rails, I think it desirable to prepare the following list of the described species and genera which brings together in one paper all the references to published descriptions. Lack of sufficient material has prevented me from making a monographic study of the group, but where specimens were at hand I have been able to judge of the specific relations of various described forms and to arrange the synonymy accordingly.

In other cases where the validity of species was in doubt I have had to depend upon the statements of those authors who have had actual specimens for comparison.

This paper was nearly completed before I had an opportunity of examining Dr. Sharpe's scheme of classification of the *Rallidæ* (Ibis, 1893, p. 258). This is a mere list of genera arranged according to the author's views with diagnoses of a number of new genera.

While it is impossible without better material for me to criticise Dr. Sharpe's general arrangement it certainly seems that some closely allied forms have been unduly separated. For instance, while the old genus *Rougetius* is easily separable into two groups of probable generic rank it does not seem to me that the differences warrant the interposition of the entire series of Crakes between them.

It moreover seems hardly advisable to make so many genera out of the old genus *Porzana* as is done in this scheme.

Two of the generic names adopted by Dr. Sharpe (*Corethrura* and *Rallina*) are clearly untenable as is shown below.

Although the Rails of the New World have been excellently monographed by Messrs. Selater and Salvin, P. Z. S. 1868, p. 442, no recent attempt has been made at a systematic arrangement of the Old World members of the family except in the paper by Dr. Sharpe just referred to.

The satisfactory arrangement in a lineal sequence of the genera of any family, especially such a one as the *Rallidæ*, is well nigh impossible, and there must necessarily be breaks in the series.

From the typical Rails (*Rallus* and *Hypotaenidia*) we can run in one direction through *Eulabeornis* and the *Gymnocrex* group to the Woodhens (*Ocydromus*) and again through *Dryolimnas*, *Rougetius* and *Euryzona* towards the Crakes. In any case the genera *Ocydromus* and *Himantornis* are extreme forms and had better stand separately at the end of the series than be interpolated in the middle.

Cabalus is evidently allied to *Hypotaenidia* and *Canirallus* to *Euryzona* though they are both aberrant forms.

With these ideas in mind I have begun my list with the genera most nearly approaching the Woodhens and followed with the true Rails passing from them to the Crakes. As Dr. Sharpe says the Crakes merge on the one hand into the Rails and on the other into the Gallinules, *Amaurornis* being the connecting link with the latter.

Of the Crakes I have recognized eight genera as follows: *Orex*, *Porzana*, *Limnobaenus*, *Limnocorax*, *Sarothrura*, *Rallacula*, *Porzanaula* and *Pennula*.

The Gallinules and Coots have not been included as I have limited my paper to what are generally known as the *Rallinæ* though it is an exceedingly difficult matter to draw a sharp line between the several so-called subfamilies of the *Rallidæ*. The genera *Amaurornis* and *Oenolimnas*¹ have also been omitted as they seem to belong with the Gallinules, and also the genera *Ocydromus*² and *Himantor-*

¹ Dr. Sharpe arranges this genus (type *Rallina isabellina* Schl.) with the Crakes but it seems to me closely allied to *Amaurornis*.

² Monographed in Buller's Birds of N. Zealand. See also Ibis, 1893, p. 261.

nis which are, as has already been stated, hardly to be included with the *Rallineæ*.³

Besides the *Rallineæ* in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, I had the opportunity of studying the series of Old World Rails in the collection of the U. S. National Museum which were kindly loaned to me by Mr. Robert Ridgway, Curator of the Department of Birds.

The generic names which have been proposed for the Old World Rails with the type species of each are as follows:

- 1758.—*Rallus* Linn., S. N. ed. 10, I, p. 153. *R. aquaticus* Linn.
 1802.—*Crex* Bechst., Orn. Taschb. Deutschl., p. 336. *R. crex* Linn.
 1816.—*Ortygometra* Leach, Syst. Cat. M. & B. Brit. Mus., p. 34.
 R. crex Linn.
 1816.—*Porzana* Vieill., Analyse, p. 61. *R. porzana* Linn.
 1816.—*Zapornia* Leach, Syst. Cat. M. & B. Brit. Mus., p. 34.
 Z. minuta Leach.
 1829.—*Phalaridion* Kaup., Entw. Eur. Thierw., p. 173. *Gallinula*
 pusilla & *pygmaea*.
 1837.—*Alethelia* Swains., (nec Less., 1826).
 1844.—*Eulabeornis* Gould, P. Z. S., 1844, p. 56. *E. castaneo-*
 ventris Gould.
 1845.—*Rallites* Puch., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 277. *R. pusillus*.
 1845.—*Biensis* Puch., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 278, *B. typus* Puch.
 1846.—*Corethrura* Gray, Gen. Bds., Vol. III (nec Hope 1844).
 1848.—*Rallina* Reich., Syn. Av., Vol. III, Rasores. *R. maximus*
 Vieill.
 1852.—*Hypotaenidia* Reich., Syst. Av., p. xxiii. *R. pectoralis* Cuv.
 1854.—*Limnocorax* Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wissensch. Berlin,
 p. 134. *L. capensis* Peters.
 1856.—*Lewinia* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599. *R. brachi-*
 pus Sw.
 1856.—*Rougetius* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599. *R. aby-*
 sinicus Rupp.
 1856.—*Euryzona* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599. *R.*
 fasciata Raffl.
 1856.—*Coturnicops* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599. *Fulica*
 novaboracensis Gm.
 1856.—*Canirallus* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 600. *Core-*
 thrura griseofrons Gray.

³ Of the following genera (most of which contain but a single species) I have no specimens for examination and have followed the statements of other authors as to their affinities: *Aramidopsis*, *Habroptila*, *Megacrex*, *Gymnocrex*, *Tricholimnas*, *Cabalus*, *Castanolimnas*, *Pennula*, *Porzanula*, *Rallacula* and *Aphanolimnas*.

- 1860.—*Habroptila* Gray, P. Z. S., 1860, p. 365. *H. willacii* Gray.
 1871.—*Rallacula* Schl., Ned. Tijdsch. Dierkunde, IV, p. 55. *R. rubra* Schl.
 1872.—*Limnobaenus* Sund., Meth. Nat. Av., p. 130. *Gallinula rubiginosa* Temm.
 1874.—*Cabalus* Hutton, Trans. N. Z. Inst., VI, p. 108. *R. modestus* Hutton.
 1875.—*Gymnocrex* Salvad., Ann. Mus. Genov., VII, p. 678. *Rallina rosenbergii* Schl.
 1875.—*Corethruopsis* Salvad., Ann. Mus. Genov., VII, p. 975. *C. leucospila* Salvad.
 1876.—*Schizoptila* Brüggm., Abhl. Nat. Ver. Bremen, 5 Bd. p. 94. *Rallina rosenbergii* Schl.
 1879.—*Megacrex* D'Alb. & Salvad., Ann. Mus. Genov., XIV, p. 130. *M. inepta* D'Alb. & Salvad.
 1879.—*Pennula* Dole, Haw. Annual, 1879, p. 54. *P. millei* Dole.
 1884.—*Psammocrex* Oustalet, La Nature, 1884, p. 508. *P. petiti*, Oustalet.
 1890.—*Sarothrura* Heine, Nomencl. Mus. Heine, p. 319.
 1892.—*Kittlizia* Hartl., (nec Hartert 1891) Abhl. Nat. Ver. Bremen, XII, heft 3, p. 391. *R. monasa* Kittl.
 1892.—*Aphanolimnas* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C., No. 4, p. xx. *R. monasa* Kittl.
 1892.—*Porzana* Frohawk, Ann. N. H., 6 (ix), p. 247. *P. palmeri* Froh.
 1893.—*Aramidopsis* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 568. *R. platani* Blasius.
 1893.—*Tricholimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260. *Gallirallus lafresnayanus* Verr.
 1893.—*Dryolimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260. *R. cuvieri* Pucher.
 1893.—*Castanolimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260. *R. camingi* Blyth.
 1893.—*Creopsis* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260. *P. egregia* Peters.⁴

The relegation of some of these names which have been in more or less common use, to synonymy requires some little explanation.

Ortygometra Leach, is simply a synonym of *Crex* though it has been used wrongly for species belonging elsewhere.

Zapornia, *Coturnicops*, *Phalaridion* and *Rallites*, are all synonyms of *Porzana*, the first two being well marked sub-genera.

⁴The above list does not include a number of generic names proposed by Heine in 1899 (Nomencl. Mus. Hein.) for well known genera of Bonaparte and other authors which had been in use for many years. These names would, of course, only find a place in the synonymy and it seems scarcely worth while to take any notice of them, such a wholesale introduction of new names being a most unwarrantable proceeding. One of Heine's names, however, *Sarothrura*, will have to stand as the name *Corethrura*, for which it was proposed as a substitute, is preoccupied.

Alcethelia and *Corethrura* were both proposed for the small Rails here called *Sarothrura*, but both names were already in use in other connections.

Biensis and *Lewinia* are synonyms of *Rallus*.

Rallina has been employed by various authors for a variety of species. Reichenbach first proposed the name in his *Synopsis Avium*, Vol. III, Rasores, Fam. Rallinæ, including under it a large number of species, and it has been generally used since for the Rails allied to *R. euryzona*. It seems, however, that no type was cited for the genus until the appearance of Reichenbach's *Systema* in which he restricts the name to the South American species allied to *R. maximus*, this species being the type. Unfortunately this species had already been made the type of the genus *Aramides*, so that *Rallina* becomes a synonym of this latter genus and we must adopt the name *Euryzona* Bonap. for the Rails allied to *R. euryzona* as already proposed by Dr. Stejneger (*Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 1887, p. 396).

Schizoptila is a pure synonym of *Gymnocrex* while *Kittlizia* is preoccupied and the name *Aphanolinus* was proposed in its stead by Dr. Sharpe.

ARAMIDOPSIS Sharpe.

1893.—*Aramidopsis* Sharpe, *Ibis*, p. 568 (*Bull. B. O. C.*).

Aramidopsis plateni (Blasius).

Rallus plateni Blasius, *Braunschweigischer Anzeiger*, Mar. 3, 1886.

Hab. Celebes.

HABROPTILA Gray.

1860.—*Habroptila* Gray, *P. Z. S.*, p. 365.

Habroptila wallacii Gray.

Habroptila wallacii Gray, *P. Z. S.*, 1860, p. 365.

Hab. East Gilolo.

MEGACREX D'Alb & Salvad.

1879.—*Megacrex* D'Alb. & Salvad., *Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov.*, XIV, p. 130 (type *M. inepta* D'Alb. & Salvad.).

Megacrex inepta D'Alb. & Salv.

Megacrex inepta D'Alb. & Salvad., *Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov.*, XIV, (1879) p. 130.

Hab. New Guinea.

GYMNOCREX Salvad.

1875.—*Gymnocrex*, Salvad., *Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov.*, VII, p. 678 (type *Rallina rosenbergii* Schl.).

1876.—*Schizoptila* Brügg., Abhl. Nat. Ver. Bremen, 5 Bd., p. 94 (type *Rallina rosenbergii* Schl.).

Gymnocrex rosenbergii (Schl.).

Rallina rosenbergii Schl., Ned. Tijdschr. Dierk., III, p. 212 (1866).

Gymnocrex rosenbergii Salvad., Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov., VII, p. 678 (1875).

Schizoptila rosenbergii Brüggeman, Abhl. Nat. Ver. Bremen, 5 Bd. p. 94 (1876).

Hab. Celebes.

Gymnocrex plumbeoventris (Gray).

Rallus plumbeoventris Gray, P. Z. S., 1861, p. 432 (Mysol).

Rallus hoeveri Rosenb., Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Ind., 1867, p. 144.

Rallus intactus Schl., P. Z. S., 1869, p. 120 (Solomon Isl.).

Hab. Solomon Isl. &c.

TRICHOLIMNAS Sharpe.

1893.—*Tricholimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, p. 260 (type *Gallirallus lafresnayanus* Verr.).

Tricholimnas lafresnayanus (Verr. & Desm.).

Gallirallus lafresnayanus Verr. & Desm., Rev. Zool., 1860, p. 437.

Hab. New Caledonia.

EULABEORNIS Gould.

1844.—*Eulabeornis* Gould, P. Z. S., 1844, p. 56 (type *E. castaneoventris* Gould).

This genus of which the type is before me seems to contain but a single species. The *Gallirallus lafresnayanus* Verr. & Desm., which has been referred by some authors to *Eulabeornis* and by others to *Ocydromus*, has been placed in a distinct genus by Dr. Sharpe.

Eulabeornis castaneoventris Gould.

Eulabeornis castaneoventris Gould, P. Z. S., 1844, p. 56.

Hab. Cape York Peninsula, Australia.

RALLUS Linn.

1758.—*Rallus* Linn., Syst. Nat. I, p. 153 (type *R. aquaticus* L.).

1845.—*Bieusis* Pucher., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 278 (type *B. typus* Puch.).

1856.—*Lewinia* Bonap., Compt. Rend., 1856, p. 599 (type *R. lewinia* Sw.).

The two species which have been separated from true *Rallus*

under the generic names *Biensis* and *Lewinia* do not seem to me sufficiently distinct to warrant their separation. *Rallus brachipus* (type of *Lewinia*) is the connecting link to *Hypotaenidia* as regards plumage, being very near to the *H. striata* group.

Rallus aquaticus Linn.

Rallus aquaticus Linn., S. N. ed. 10, I (1758), p. 153.

Hab. Europe.

Rallus indicus Blyth.

Rallus indicus Blyth, Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XVIII, p. 820 (1849).

? *Rallus japonicus* Dresser, Bds. of Europe, VII (1878), p. 261.

Hab. Bengal, Nepal, Japan, etc.

This species is the eastern representative of the former.

Rallus coerulescens Gm.

Rallus coerulescens Gm., S. N. I, p. 716, 1788.

Hab. S. Africa.

Rallus madagascariensis Desj.

Rallus madagascariensis Desj., P. Z. S., 1831, p. 45.

Biensis typus Pucheran, Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 278.

Hab. Madagascar.

Rallus brachipus Sw.

Rallus brachipus Sw., Anim. in Menag., (1838) p. 336.

Rallus Lewinii Sw., Anim. in Menag., p. 336.

"*Rallus pectoralis* Cuv.," fide Pucheran, Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 278.

Hab. Australia.

Rallus muelleri Rothsch.

Rallus muelleri Rothsch., Ibis., 1893, p. 442.

Hab. Auckland Isl., New Zealand.

A close ally of the preceding.

HYPOTAENIDIA Reichb.

1850.—*Hypotaenidia* Reichb., Syst. Avium. p. XXIII (type "*R. pectoralis* Gould" = *R. philippensis* L.).

Reichenbach gives as the type of his genus "*Rallus pectoralis* Cuv." which Pucheran states is *Rallus brachipus* Sw.; the bird figured on the plate to which we are referred, however, is the "*Rallus pectoralis* Gould" which is *R. philippensis* Linn.

This genus comprises three groups of species:

- a. Those allied to *H. striatus* which have the bars on the wing feathers all white and which make an easy transition to *Rallus* through *R. brachipus*.
- b. Those allied to *R. philippensis* which have the bars on the wing feathers reddish brown, except the two outermost primaries.
- c. Those allied to *H. celebensis*, with the upper surface not striped and the throat black.

Hypotaenidia striata (Linn.).

Rallus striata Linn., S. N. ed. 12 (1766) I, p. 262.

Hab. Philippine Islands.

Hypotaenidia gularis (Horsf.).

Rallus gularis Horsf., Tr. Linn. Soc., XIII, 1822, p. 196.

Hab. Java.

Hypotaenidia superciliaris (Eyton).

Rallus superciliaris Eyton, Ann. & Mag. N. H., XVI, 1845, p. 230.

Rallina telmatophila Hume, Stray Feathers, VII, p. 142.

Hab. Malacca.

This will probably prove synonymous with the preceding.

Hypotaenidia jouyi (Stejn.).

Rallus jouyi Stejn., Proc. U. S. N. M., Vol. 9, 1886, p. 263.

Hab. China (probably India, also).

Hypotaenidia obscuriora Hume.

Hypotaenidia obscuriora Hume, Stray Feathers, II, p. 302 (Jan. 1874).

Hypotaenidia ferrea Walden, Ibis, 1874, p. 147 (April 1874).

Hab. Andaman Isl.

Hypotaenidia abnormis Hume.

Hypotaenidia abnormis Hume, Stray Feathers, 1875, p. 389.

Hab. Southern Andamans.

Hypotaenidia philippensis (Linn.).

Rallus philippensis Linn., S. N. ed. 12, I, p. 263.

Rallus pectoralis Gould, Birds of Austral., Vol. VI, Pl. 76 (nec Cuvier).

Rallus etorques Temm., fide Schlegel Mus. Pays Bas, V., p. 23.

Rallus hypotaenidia "Bonap.," fide Verr. & DesMur., Rev. & Mag. Zool., 1860, p. 537.

Rallus fosteri Hartl., Wieg. Arch. f. Naturg., 1852, p. 136.

Rallus hypoleucus Finsch & Hartl., Orn. Centralpol., p. 163.

Rallus pictus Potts, Trans. N. Z. Inst., IV, p. 202 (1871).

Rallus biensis von Pelz., Ibis, 1873, p. 42.

Rallus assimilis Gray, App. Dieff. Travels, Vol. II, p. 197.

Hab. Java to Australia and New Zealand.

While it may be possible to separate this species into several races, my material is insufficient to decide the question. As far as I can see, however, such separation does not seem practicable. The presence or absence of a buff breast band is not a constant character, birds from the same locality showing great diversity in this respect. The New Zealand bird has been separated by both Gray and Potts but from such specimens as I have seen I fail to find any constant differential characters.

Hypotaenidia torquata (Linn.).

Rallus torquatus Linn., S. N. ed. 12, I, p. 262.

"*Rallus lineatus* "Cuv." Less. Tr. Ornith., 1831, p. 536.

Hab. Philippines.

Hypotaenidia oelebensis (Q. & G.).

Rallus celebensis Q. & G., l'Astrol., t. 24, p. 2.

Hab. Celebes.

Hypotaenidia sulcirostris (Wall.).

Rallus sulcirostris Wall., P. Z. S., 1862, p. 345.

Hab. Sula Isl.

See an important paper on this and allied species, Selater, Ibis, 1880, p. 312.

Hypotaenidia saturata Salvad.

Hypotaenidia saturata Salvad., Mss., Selater, Ibis, 1880, p. 310

Hab. Salawatti and Papua.

Hypotaenidia insignis (Sel.).

Rallus insignis Sel., P. Z. S., 1880, p. 66.

Hab. New Britain, Duke of York Isl.

Hypotaenidia poeciloptera (Hartl.).

Rallina poeciloptera Hartl., Ibis, 1866, p. 171.

Hab. Fiji Isl.

Hypotaenidia woodfordi (Grant).

Rallina woodfordi Ogilvie Grant, Ann. & Mag. N. H., (6) IV. 1889, p. 320.

Hab. Solomon Isl.

The last two species I have never seen and am not sure whether they should be referred to this genus or not. *Rallus featherstonii* is described by Buller, Essay on Ornithology of New Zealand, published

in Report of N. Z. Expos. 1865, but is entirely ignored by him in his subsequent work on Birds of New Zealand. I have not access to the first work, but judge the name to be a synonym perhaps of *Hypotaenidia philippensis* L.

H. sulcirostris and the two following species I arrange here in accordance with Dr. Sclater's views as they are evidently members of this group, though I have no specimens for examination.

CABALUS Hutton.

Cabalus Hutton, Trans. N. Z. Inst., VI, p. 108 (type *R. modestus* Hutton).

Cabalus dieffenbachi (Gray).

Rallus dieffenbachi Gray, App. Dieff. Travels, Vol. II, p. 197.

Rallus modestus Hutton, Ibis, 1872, p. 247.

Hab. Chatham Isl.

C. modestus may be a distinct species as has been held by a number of ornithologists; the majority of those who have examined specimens, however, seem to consider it merely the young of *C. dieffenbachi*.

Cabalus macquariensis (Hutton).

Rallus macquariensis Hutton, Ibis, 1879, p. 454.

Hab. Macquarie Isl.

Cabalus sylvestris (Sclater).

Ocydromus sylvestris Sel., P. Z. S., 1869, p. 472.

Hab. Lord Howe Isl.

Dr. Sharpe states that this species is really a *Cabalus* and has been wrongly referred to *Ocydromus* (Ibis, 1893, p. 262).

ROUGETIUS Bonap.

1856.—*Rougetius* Bonap., Compt. Rend., t. 43, p. 599 (type *R. abyssiniensis* Rüpp. = *R. rougetii* Guer.)

The species generally referred to this genus fall into two groups, one containing the type and the other comprising *R. bernieri* of Madagascar and its close allies from the adjacent islands. In the former the bill is much smaller and weaker, though its shape and proportions are about the same. For the latter group Dr. Sharpe has proposed the generic name *Dryolimnas* and it seems better to recognize the two genera.

Rougetius rougetii (Guer).

Rallus rougetii Guer., Rev. Zool., 1843, p. 322.

Rallus abyssiniensis Rüpp., Syst. Uebers., 1845, No. 478, t 46.

Hab. Abyssinia.

DRYOLIMNAS Sharpe.

1893.—*Dryolimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260 (type *R. cuvieri* Puch.).

Dryolimnas bernieri (Bonap.).

Rougetius bernieri Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, 1856, p. 599 (nomen nudum).

"*Rougetius bernieri* Bonap.," Hartl., J. f. O., 1860, p. 171.

Hab. Madagascar.

Dryolimnas cuvieri (Pucheran).

Rallus gularis Cuv.," Less. Tr. Ornith., p. 536 (nec Cuv.).

Rallus cuvieri Puch., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 279.

Hab. Mauritius.

Dryolimnas aldebranus (Gunther).

Rallus gularis var *aldebrana* Gunther, Ann. & Mag. N. H., ser. 5, Vol. III, 1879, p. 164.

Rougetius aldebranus Ridgw., Proc. U. S. N. M., Vol. XVI, p. 598, 1893.

Hab. Aldebra.

Dryolimnas abbotti (Ridgw.).

Rougetius abbotti Ridgw., Auk, 1894, p. 74.

Hab. Assumption Island.

CANIRALLUS Bonap.

1856.—*Canirallus* "Hartl.," Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 600 (type *Gallinula kilioides* Puch.).

To this genus have been referred two species which are certainly not congeneric, *i. e.*, *C. kilioides* Puch., and *C. oculus* Temm. Bonaparte gives them both in his list (Compt. Rend., 1856, p. 600) and places *oculus* Temm. first; from the fact, however, that he placed the genus in *Gallinulinae* I think he must have had the former species in view, as its bill is strikingly like that of a Gallinule. I therefore, would select *kilioides* Puch. as the type.

Although the shape of the bill of this bird recalls the Gallinules (especially *Amauroptera*) it has no trace of a frontal shield, and the toes are very short, as in *Euryzona*, so that I think its place is with the *Rallinae*, though certainly an aberrant form.

Canirallus kilioides (Puch.).

Gallinula kilioides Puch., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 279.

Corethrura griseofrons Gray, Gen. Bds., III, 1846, p. 595.

Hab. Madagascar.

EURYZONA Bonap.

1846.—*Rallina* Gray, Gen. Birds, III, p. 595 (type *R. zeylanicus* Gm. (nec *Rallina* Reich.).

1856.—*Euryzona* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599 (type *R. fasciata* Raffl.)

The question of the proper name for this genus has already been thoroughly discussed. Besides the typical species allied to *E. fasciata*, there is another which seems more nearly allied to this genus than any other. This is the *Canirallus oculens* of Temminck, which is certainly not congeneric with *Canirallus kilioides* (type of genus). This species has the short toes of *Euryzona*, but has the bill somewhat longer and higher at the base. The coloration is almost exactly the same style as that of a typical *Euryzona*. Although it may be necessary to propose a new genus for this species, I would prefer for the present to place it here.

***Euryzona fasciata* (Raffl.).**

Rallina fasciata Raffl., Trans. Linn. Soc., (1822) XIII, p. 328, (Sumatra).

Gallinula euryzona Temm., Pl. Col. 417, 1838 (Java).

Hab. India.

***Euryzona euryzonoides* (Lafr.).**

Gallinula euryzonoides Lafr., Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 368.

Rallus zeylanicus "Gm." Auct., nec Gmelin (see Tweedale P. Z. S. 1877, p. 767).

Hab. Ceylon, Burmah, etc.

***Euryzona amauroptera* (Blyth).**

Rallus capensis Gm., S. N., (1788) I, p. 716, pt. (nec Linn.)

Porzana ceylonicus Blyth (1849), Cat. Bds. Mus. Asiat. Soc., p. 285 (nec *R. zeylanica* Gen.)

Porzana amauroptera Blyth, fide Jerdon, Bds. India, III, p. 725 (1864).

Hab. Northern India.

The date and place of Blyth's description I am unable to find; probably it was merely a manuscript name that Jerdon quotes.

***Euryzona sepiaria* Stejn.**

Euryzona sepiaria Stejn., Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1887, p. 395.

Hab. Liu Kiu Islands.

***Euryzona tricolor* (Gray).**

Rallus tricolor Gray, P. Z. S., 1858, p. 188.

Hab. New Guinea.

Euryzona minahasa (Wall.).*Rallina minahasa* Wall., P. Z. S., 1862, p. 346.

Hab. Sula and N. Celebes.

Euryzona rufigenis (Wall.).*Porzana rufigenis* Wall., P. Z. S., 1865, p. 480.

Hab. Borneo.

Euryzona zonaventris Cab.*Rallina (E.) zonaventris* Cab., J. f. O., 1881, p. 425.

Hab. Malacca.

Euryzona oculate (Temm.).*Gallinula oculate* Temm.*Canirallus oculus* Bonap., Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599.*Rallina oculate* Schleg., Mus. Pays Bas, V, p. 20.

Hab. W. Africa, (Liberia, &c.).

CASTANOLIMNAS Sharpe.1893.—*Castanolimnas* Sharpe, Ibis, 1893, p. 260 (type *Rallina canningi* Tytler).As I have never seen the species upon which this genus is founded I follow Dr. Sharpe in recognizing it as distinct from *Euryzona*.**Castanolimnas canningi** (Tytler).*Rallina canningi* Tytler, Ibis., 1863, p. 119.

Hab. Andaman Isl.

CREX Bechst.1802.—*Crex* Bechst., Orn. Taschb. Deutschl., p. 336 (type *R. crex* L.).1816.—*Ortygometra* Leach, Syst. Cat. M. & B. Brit. Mus., p. 34 (type *R. crex* L.).**Crex crex** (Linn.).*Rallus crex* Linn., S. N. ed. 12, I (1758), p. 153.*Crex pratensis* Bechst., Ornithol. Taschenb., II, p. 337 (1803).*Fulica naevia* Gm., S. N. I (1788), p. 709.

Hab. Europe and Northern Asia.

PORZANA Vieill.1816.—*Porzana* Vieill., Analyse, p. 61 (type *R. porzana* Linn.).1816.—*Zapornia* Leach, Syst. Cat. M. & B. Brit. Mus., p. 34 (type *Z. minuta* Leach).1829.—*Phalaridion* Kaup, Entw. Eur. Thierw, p. 173 (type *Gallinula pusilla* and *pygmaea*).1845.—*Rallites* Puch. Rev. Zool., 1845, p. 277 (type *R. pusillus*).1856.—*Coturnicops* Bonap. Compt. Rend., XLIII, p. 599 (type *Fulica noveboracensis* Gm.).

In this genus I have placed the majority of the smaller Rails, which may be arranged in several subgenera: (1) *Porzana* with one species (*P. porzana*). (2) *Zapornia* with five distinct species (*P. novæ-hollandiæ*, *quadristrigata*, *tabuensis*, *pusilla* and *palustris*) and several others which are perhaps only to be regarded as subspecies. Additional species or subspecies may have to be recognized in this group when a large amount of material is examined, but in that case some of the names here included in the synonymy will have to be revived. (3) *Crecopsis*, a group of African species, including *P. marginalis* Peters and some allied forms. (4) *Coturnicops*, including two species *P. exquisita* and *P. ayresi*. The type of this subgenus is *P. noreboracensis* Gm., an American species.

The other species of *Porzana* I have not been able to examine and am uncertain as to their arrangement. *P. akool*, *modesta* and *bicolor* seem from the descriptions to be very different birds from the other *Porzanae* and may have to be placed in a distinct genus. *P. moluccana* of Wallace may not be a *Porzana* at all, as the description is too meagre to show what its relationship really is. *P. rufigenis* described at the same time seems to be a *Euryzona*.

a. PORZANA.

Porzana porzana (Linn.).

Rallus porzana Linn., S. N. ed 12, I, p. 262 ; 1766.

Ortygometra maruetta Leach, Gould, Bds. of Europe.

Hab. Europe.

Porzana novæ-hollandiæ Cuv.

Porzana novæ-hollandiæ Cuv.

Porzana fluminea Gould, P. Z. S., 1842, p. 139.

Hab. Australia and Tasmania.

b. ZAPORNIA.

Porzana quadristrigata (Horsf.)

Rallus quadristrigata Horsf., Linn. Trans., XIII, p. 196 (Java).

Rallus tanensis Forst. Descr. Anim., 1844, p. 275 (Tanna).

Rallus leucophrys Gould, P. Z. S., 1847, p. 33 (Australia).

Gallinula leucosoma Sw., Anim. in Menag., p. 348 (India).

Zapornia sandwichensis Reich., Icon. Col., t. 204, f. 1184-85 (nec

Rallus sandwichensis Gm.).

"*Gallinula mystacina* Mus. Paris," Inedit. fide Schlegel.

"*Gallinula superciliosa* Temm.," Inedit. fide Schlegel.

Hab. Java to Australia, etc.

Rallus cinereus Vieill. which is often quoted for this bird, applies to a South American species.

Porzana tabuensis Gm.

Rallus tabuensis Gm., S. N. I (1788), p. 717, (Tongo Taboo, Otaheite).

Zaporina umbrina Cass., Proc. A. N. S. Phila., VIII, p. 254 (Fiji).

"*Zaporina umbrata*" Hartl., Wiegmann Arch. für Naturg., 1858, II, p. 29 = misprint of Cassin's name.

Crex plumbea Gray, Griff. Anim. King, III, p. 410, (1829) (no habitat).

Porzana tahitiensis (Gm.)

Rallus tahitiensis Gm., S. N., I (1788), p. 717.

Gallinula immaculata Sw., Anim. in Menag., 1838, p. 337 (Tasmania).

Hab. Australia and Polynesia.

Whether there is more than one species of these little unicolorous Rails of the South Pacific I am unable to say; whether the name *tabuensis* of Gmelin will stand is also doubtful. If the two prove synonymous, *tabuensis* has priority.

Porzana spilonota (Gould).

Zaporina spilonota Gould, Voy. Beagle, pt. III, pt. 132.

Hab. Galapagos.

Porzana vitiensis Hartl.

Porzana vitiensis Hartl., J. f. O. (1854), p. 169.

Hab. Fiji Isl.

A name based upon Peale's brief description of a Fiji Rail which he identifies as "*P. spilonota* Gould" (U. S. Expl. Exped., Wilkes, p. 224).

Porzana pusillus (Pallas).

Rallus pusillus Pallas, Reise. Russ. Reise. (1776), III, app. p. 700.

Rallus pusillus Gm., I, p. 719 (1788).

Hab. India, China and Japan.

Porzana intermedia (Hermann).

Rallus intermedius Hermann, Observ. on Zool., I, p. 198 (1804).

Crex pygmaea Naum., Voy., t. 239 (18—).

Rallus bailloni Vieill., Nov. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., XXVIII, p. 548 (1819).

Gallinula stellaris Temm., Man. d'Orn., 2 ed., II, p. 693 (1820).

Hab. Europe and Africa.

As to the separation of this species from the preceding, see Ogilvie Grant, Ann. & Mag. N. H., 1890, Vol. V, p. 80. Dr. Stejneger pro-

poses the adoption of the name *intermedia* for this bird (Proc. U. S. N. M., 1886, p. 397) as the status of *Crex pygmaea* seems somewhat doubtful, and this name antedates *R. bailloni* Vieill. by fifteen years.

Porzana parva (Scop.).

Rallus parvus Scop., Ann. Hist. Nat., p. 108 (1769).

Rallus minuta Pall., Zoogr. Ross. Asiat., II, p. 155, 1826 (nec *R. minuta* Gmelin 1788, which is a South American species).

Rallus Foljabamei Mont.

Rallus Peyronsi Vieill.

Hab. Europe and Western Asia.

Porzana palustris Gould.

Porzana palustris Gould, P. Z. S., 1842, p. 139.

Hab. Tasmania.

Porzana affinis Gray.

Ortygometra affinis Gray, Voy. Ereb. & Terr., p. 14 (1844).

Rallus punctatus Ellm., Zool., 1861, p. 7470.

Hab. New Zealand.

c. CRECOPSIS Sharpe.

Porzana egregia Peters.

Ortygometra egregia Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wissensch. Berlin, 1854, p. 134.

Hab. Tette.

Porzana angolensis Hartl.

Ortygometra angolensis Hartl., Ibis, 1862, p. 340 (Angola).

Ortygometra fasciata Hough, J. f. O., 1863, p. 27 (White Nile).

This species is said to be identical with the preceding by Heuglin, Ornith. N. Afr. II, p. 1240.

Porzana marginalis Hartl.

Porzana marginalis Hartl., Syst. Orn. West Afr., p. 241.

Hab. Gaboon.

Porzana watersi Bartl.

Zaporina watersi Bartl., P. Z. S., 1879, p. 772, pl. LXI.

Hab. Madagascar.

d. COTURNICOPS.

Porzana exquisita Swinh.

Porzana exquisita Swinh., Ann. & Mag. N. H., (4) XII, p. 376, 1873.

Porzana undulata Tacz., J. f. O., 1874, p. 333.

Hab. N. China (Cheefoo).

Dr. Stejneger seems to have overlooked the description of this species in Ann. and Mag. N. H., 1873 (see Proc. U. S. N. M., 1886, p. 401) and Mr. Swinhoe himself says that he forgot that he had published it and republished the species in Ibis, 1875, p. 135, fortunately using the same name.

Porzana ayresi (Gurney).

Coturnicops ayresi Gurney, Ibis, 1877, p. 352, Pl. VII.

Hab. Transvaal Republic.

OTHER SPECIES.

Porzana akool (Sykes).

Rallus akool Sykes, P. Z. S., 1832, p. 164.

Hab. India.

Porzana modesta (Sw.)

Gallinula modesta Sw., Anim. in Menag., p. 348.

Hab. India.

Porzana bicolor Walden.

Porzana bicolor Walden, Ann. & Mag. N. H., (4) IX, p. 47 (1871).

Porzana elvesi Hume, Stray Feathers, 1875, p. 283.

Hab. Himalayas.

Porzana moluccana Wall.

Porzana moluccana Wall., P. Z. S., 1865, p. 480.

Hab. Amboyna.

LIMNOBAENUS Sund.

1872.—*Limnobaenus* Sund., Meth. Nat. Av., p. 130 (type *Gallinula rubiginosa* Temm.)

Limnobaenus fuscus (Linn.).

Rallus fuscus Linn., S. N., ed. 12, I, p. 262 (1766).

“*Rallus flammeiceps* Hodgs” (?)

Hab. Philippines.

Limnobaenus erythrothorax (J. & S.)

Gallinula erythrothorax J. & S., Faun. Jap., Aves, p. 121, pl.

LXXVIII.

Hab. China and Japan.

Limnobaenus paykulli (Ljungh).

Rallus paykulli Ljungh, Sv. Vet. Akad. Handl., 1813, p. 258.

Porzana mandarina Swinh., Ann. & Mag. N. H., 4 series, V, p. 173.

Hab. China, Malacca, Batavia.

Limnobaenus phaeopygus (Stejn.)*Porzana phaeopyga* Stejn., Proc. U. S. N. M., 1887, p. 394.

Hab. Japan.

Limnobaenus rubiginosus (Temm.).*Gallinula rubiginosa* Temm., Pl. Col. LV (1825), p. 357.

Hab. Java and Southern India.

PENNULA Dole.1879.—*Pennula* Dole, Hawaiian Annual, p. 54 (type *P. millei* Dole).**Pennula ecaudata** (King).*Rallus ecaudatus* King, Cook's Third Voyage, Vol. III, p. 119.*Rallus obscurus* Gm., S. N. I (1788), p. 718.*Pennula millei* Dole, Haw. Ann., 1879, p. 54.

Hab. Hawaiian Isl.

Pennula sandwichensis (Gm.).*Rallus sandwichensis* Gm., S. N. I (1788), p. 717

Hab. Hawaiian Isl.

PORZANULA Frohawk.1891.—*Porzanula* Frohawk, Ann. & Mag. N. H., p. 247 (type *P. palmeri*).**Porzanula palmeri** (Froh.).*Porzanula palmeri* (Froh.), Ann. & Mag. N. H., 1891, p. 247.

Hab. Laysan Isl.

LIMNOCORAX Peters.1854.—*Limnocorax* Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wissensch., Berlin, p. 134 (type *L. capensis*).

Although Peters recognizes three species of this genus it does not seem possible from such material as I have examined to admit more than one. A larger series of specimens may, however, justify his conclusions.

Limnocorax niger (Gm.).*Rallus niger* Gm., S. N. I (1788), p. 717.*Gallinula flavirostris* Sw., Bds. of W. Afr., I, p.

Limnocorax capensis Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wiss. Berlin, 1854, p. 188.

L. senegalensis Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wiss. Berlin, 1854, p. 188.

L. mossambicus Peters, Monatsber. K. P. Ak. Wiss. Berlin, 1854, p. 188.

Rallus aethiops Forster, (fide Peters).

Hab. S. and W. Africa.

SAROTHRURA Heine.

1890.—*Sarothrura* Heine, Nomencl. Mus. Hein., p. 319.

1853.—*Corethrura* Reichb., (nec Hope, 1844).

1837.—*Aleethelia* Sw., (nec Less. 1826).

As has already been stated, p. 133, foot note, the name *Sarothrura* of Heine seems to be the only one applicable to this genus.

Sarothrura dimidiata (Temm.).

Gallinula dimidiata "Temm.," Less., Traite. d'Ornith., I, p. 537 (1831).

Crex ruficollis Gray, Zool. Misc., p. 13 (1831).

Hab. S. Africa.

Sarothrura jardinii (Smith).

Crex jardinii Smith, Proc. S. Afr. Inst., Nov., 1828.

? *Aleethelia lineata* Sw., Anim. in Menag., p. 338.

Hab. S. Africa.

Sarothrura pulchra (Gray).

Crex pulchra Gray, Griff. An. Kingd., III, p. 410.

Gallinula elegans Smith, Zool. S. Afr., Aves, Pl. 22.

Hab. S. Africa.

Sarothrura insularis (Sharpe).

Corethrura insularis Sharpe, P. Z. S., 1870, p. 400.

Hab. Madagascar.

Sarothrura cinnamomea (Less.).

Ralls cinnamomeus Less., Rev. Zool., 1840, p. 99.

Hab. S. Africa.

Sarothrura bonapartei Hartl.

Corethrura Bonapartei Hartl., Orn. West Afr., p. 242.

Hab. Gaboon, W. Africa.

Of the last two species I have never seen any specimens and they may prove to be synonyms. The names "*cercoleps* Tem." and "*caudatus* Cuv." given in Gray's Hand List under this section, I have been unable to find, but as their habitat is given as Philippines they probably do not belong in the genus *Sarothrura*.

RALLICULA.

1871.—*Rallacula* Schl., Ned. Tijdsch. Dierk., IV, p. 55 (type *R. rubra* Schl.).

Rallacula rubra Schl.

Rallacula rubra Schl., Ned. Tijdsch. Dierk., IV, p. 55 (1871).

Hab. New Guinea.

Rallicula forbesi Sharpe.

Rallicula forbesi Sharpe, Birds of New Guinea, Pl. XXIII.

Hab. New Guinea.

Rallicula leucospila (Salvad.).

Corethruopsis leucospila Salvad., Ann. Mus. Genov., VII, p. 975 (1875).

Hab. New Guinea.

Dr. Sharpe regards the genus *Corethruopsis* as synonymous with *Rallicula* and I have followed his views. I have never had an opportunity of examining a specimen.

APHANOLIMNAS Sharpe.

1892.—*Kittlizia* Hartl., Abh. Nat. Ver. Bremen, XII, Heft 3, p. 391 (type *R. monasa* Kittl.) nec Hartert 1891.

1892.—*Aphanolimnas* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C., No. 4, p. XX, same type.

Aphanolimnas monasa (Kittl.).

Rallus monasa Kittl., Denkwürdigkeiten Reise russ. Amerika, Micronesien u. Kamtschatka, p. 30 (1858).

Hab. Ualan Isl.